

Message Text

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67

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E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: ETRD, GATT

SUBJECT: ARTICLE XXIV:6 NEGOTIATIONS- AGRICULTURAL REQUESTS

REFERENCES: (A) GENEVA 2068 (B) GENEVA 2095

1. REF TELS GAVE DELEGATION COMMENTS ON ALL COMMODITY PAPERS WE HAVE HAD FROM USDA. THOSE PAPERS WERE ACCOMPANIED BY A SUGGESTED OVERALL REQUEST LIST ENTITLED " ARTICLE XXIV:6 NEGOTIATION AGRICULTURAL REQUEST LIST ON ITEMS FALLING WITHIN THE FIRST 24 CHAPTERS OF THE BTN." DELEGATION GENERAL COMMENTS ON THAT PAPER FOLLOW.

2. PAPER SUGGESTS THAT A REQUEST SHOULD BE MADE FOR EACH CLAIM ITEM (WITH A FEW EXCEPTIONS) SUBMITTED TO EC AND THAT (AGAIN WITH A FEW EXCEPTIONS) THE REQUESTED DUTY BINDING SHOULD BE THE AVERAGE (WEIGHTED BY IMPORTS FROM THE US) OF THE DUTIES-- BOTH BOUND AND UNBOUND-- APPLIED BY THE EC, UK, IRELAND AND DENMARK IN 1970-71.

(A) THE PAPER DOES NOT IDENTIFY THOSE ITEMS WHICH ARE CONSIDERED TO BE " ITEMS WHICH ARE SIGNIFICANT IMPORTANCE TO US" (IN SENSE FLANIGAN MEMO JAN. 26, 1973) IN TERMS OF OUR EVENTUAL COMPENSATION GOAL. IF THESE

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ITEMS COULD BE IDENTIFIED NOW, WE COULD TAILOR OUR REQUEST ACCORDINGLY.

(B) THERE ARE SIGNIFICANT DEPARTURES FROM THE WEIGHTED AVERAGE PRINCIPLE IN SOME INSTANCES (E. G., GRAINS, LARD, CITRUS, FRUITS AND VEGETABLES) DESCRIBED IN SEPARATE PAPERS. THESE DEPARTURES ARE ALL IN OUR FAVOR AND DO NOT APPEAR TO HAVE BEEN OFFSET BY DROPPING OR REDUCING REQUESTS ON OTHER ITEMS. THE DELETIONS SUGGESTED ARE OF RELATIVELY LITTLE IMPORTANCE. WE SUGGEST THAT FURTHER DELETIONS BE MADE. IF DEEPER CUTS ARE REQUESTED ON SOME ITEMS, THE DELETIONS SHOULD BE EXPANDED EVEN FURTHER.

(C) THERE ARE A NUMBER OF REQUESTS FOR SMALL REDUCTIONS IN THE CXT. FRUIT SALAD, ITEMS 08.12 FI AND 08.12 FII, ARE EXAMPLES. IN GENERAL, DELEGATION BELIEVES REQUESTS FOR MINOR REDUCTIONS IN BOUND CXT ITEMS SHOULD BE DROPPED. WHERE MINOR REDUCTIONS ARE PROPOSED IN CONNECTION WITH NEW BINDINGS IN THE CXT, WE BELIEVE REQUEST SHOULD BE FOR BINDING AT PRESENT UNBOUND CXT RATE, ESPECIALLY SINCE FOR SOME OF THESE ITEMS (E. G., ITEM 23.07 C, FEEDS WITHOUT SUGAR STARCH OR MILK; EXCEPT FISH SOLUBLES) THE NEW BINDING WOULD BE A CONSIDERABLE CONCESSION, EVEN AT THE EXISTING RATE.

(D) SOME OF THE REQUESTS (E. G., FOR ITEM 04.06, NATURAL HONEY) ARE FOR BINDINGS ON ITEMS WHERE OTHER SUPPLIERS HAVE A GREATER TRADE INTEREST THAN DOES THE US. SUCH ITEMS MIGHT BE CONSIDERED FOR DROPPING OR FOR DEEPER TARIFF CUTS (WHERE PRODUCTS HAVE GOOD TRADE POTENTIAL BUT MAJOR COMPETITORS ARE IN EC OR WILL ENJOY PREFERENTIAL TREATMENT).

(E) WHERE IMPORTS INTO THE NONE ARE SMALL (E. G., ITEM 08.04 A-I-B, GRAPES, TABLE, FRESH, JULY 15-OCT 31) THE ITEM SHOULD BE DROPPED. (EC WILL PRESUMABLY HAVE TO NEGOTIATE AMONG MEMBER STATES BEFORE APPROVING ANY NEW CXT BINDINGS-- HENCE INITIAL REQUESTS FOR SUCH BINDINGS SHOULD INCLUDE FEW OR NO ITEMS OF LITTLE TRADE IMPORTANCE.)
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(F) FOR ALL DROPPED REQUESTS, CREDITS WOULD BE KEPT FOR USE IN JUSTIFYING DEEPER CUTS ON MORE IMPORTANT ITEMS.

3. THE USDA MEMBERS OF THE DELEGATION ARE REVIEWING THE ITEMS ON THE PROPOSED REQUEST LIST (OTHER THAN

THOSE COVERED IN SPECIAL PAPERS) AND WILL SEND THEIR
SUGGESTIONS AND COMMENTS DIRECTLY TO GOODMAN, FAS.
BASSIN

NOTE BY OC/ T: NOT PASSED ABOVE ADDEE.

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*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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